

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 163838  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 SIG-03 /080 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:LPFEIFLE:CFC

APPROVED BY ARA:SASHELTON

USOAS:ESTRANNIGAN

ARA/CEN:RGRAHAM

-----060222 280304Z /61

O R 272250Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BELIZE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 163838

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS, PBOR, BH, GT, UK

SUBJECT: BELIZE: AMB. MCGEE'S REMARKS TO PRESS

REF: GUATEMALA 3746

1. EMBASSY MAY STATE THAT AMB. MCGEE  
WAS MISQUOTED. HE MADE NO MENTION OF GUATEMALAN TERRITORIAL  
CLAIMS OR BELIZEAN INDEPENDENCE. THE TENOR OF HIS STATE-  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 163838

MENT WAS A REITERATION OF U.S. SUPPORT OF A NEGOTIATED  
SETTLEMENT. U.S. POLICY TOWARD THE ANGLO-GUATEMALA DISPUTE  
OVER BELIZE REMAINS UNCHANGED; THAT IS THE U.S. MAINTAINS  
A NEUTRAL POSITION THE DISPUTE AND FAVORS A NEGOTIATED  
SETTLEMENT.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AMB. MCGEE'S ANSWER TO

TWO QUESTIONS ASKED ABOUT BELIZE DURING A NEWS CONFERENCE  
AT THE OAS ON JUNE 24.

3EGIN TEXT. 1. QUESTION RE BELIZE --ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT  
THAT?

A. WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT ANY OF THOSE QUESTIONS THAT ARE  
UNRESOLVED. IN OTHER WORDS, THE REASONS WE ARE WORRYING  
IN ANY OF THE SITUATIONS IS THAT IT NOT REACH THE TRIGGER

POINT WHERE IT CAN EXPLODE. THAT IS THE WORRY. AS LONG  
AS THERE ARE CONVERSATIONS GOING ON--AND THEY ARE STILL  
GOING ON--THAT IS THE HOPEFUL SIDE. AND THAT PROCEEDS  
TOWARD THE BETTER POSSIBILITIES THAT IT WILL NOT  
EXPLODE, AND THAT'S OUR CONCERN. WE HAVE NO INTENTIONS  
OF RUNNING WITH ANY BALL. WE STAND READY TO OFFER  
GOOD OFFICES. WE STAND READY TO WORK WITH THE ORGANI-  
ZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, AS PRESIDENT CARTER STRESSED  
IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS--TO HELP EASE THE SITUATION.  
BUT NOT IN ANY INTERFERENCE WAY.

2. QUESTION REFERRING TO ELECTIONS--

A. OUR HOPE HAS BEEN ALL ALONG THAT THERE WOULD BE A  
CHANGE IN THE ATMOSPHERE AFTER THE SWEARING-IN OF  
THE ADMINISTRATRATION THIS NEXT MONTH IN GUATEMALA.  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 163838

THAT THIS WILL MAKE IT EASIER. I THINK--REGARDLESS--  
THAT DOESN'T REFLECT ON THE PARTY THAT WAS IN BEFORE  
THE ELECTION. IT SIMPLY MEANT THAT THE APPROACH  
OF THE ELECTION ALWAYS BECOMES A CONSTRAINING FACTOR  
AS IT DOES IN MOST GOVERNMENTS IN TERMS OF HOW MUCH  
LATITUDE YOU HAVE FOR THIS KIND OF THING WITH AN  
ELECTION IMPENDING--WHETHER YOU ARE REPUBLICANS OR  
DEMOCRATS OR LIBERALS OR CONSERVATIVES--WHATEVER IT  
IS. AND THE FACT THAT THE ELECTION IS SUCCESSFULLY  
OVER AND THE TRANSITION ABOUT TO BE CONSUMMATED THAT  
IT WILL INCREASE THE PROSPECTS FOR A PEACEFUL  
SETTLEMENT. END TEXT VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, AMBASSADORS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE163838  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** LPFEFILE:CFC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780267-0036  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780614/aaaaamhh.tel  
**Line Count:** 106  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 6067e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 GUATEMALA 3746  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2187941  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BELIZE: AMB. MCGEE'S REMARKS TO PRESS  
**TAGS:** PBOR, SOPN, BH, GT, UK, US, OAS, (MCGEE, GALE W)  
**To:** GUATEMALA BELIZE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/6067e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014